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| **From:** | Michael Bogdanow |
| **To:** | City Council |
| **Cc:** | Margie Bogdanow |
| **Subject:** | City Council"s Proposed "Hewlett-Packard" Vote |
| **Date:** | Friday, April 13, 2018 11:35:39 AM |

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Dear Mayor McGovern, Vice Mayor Devereux, and City Council Members Carlone, Kelley, Mallon, Siddiqui, Simmons, Toomey, Jr., and Zondervan,

We respectfully and strongly oppose the lack of transparency and unfair singling out of Israel in the upcoming proposed City Council "Hewlett-Packard" vote. As local residents who are very concerned about the city we live in and its public image, this resolution will have implications far beyond Hewlett-Packard and, if adopted, would tarnish the reputation of our city nationally and internationally.

Any resolution of this kind deserves a full and fair public hearing, including inviting experts and interested parties to weigh in openly before action is taken. The Cambridge City Council should not abdicate its responsibilities for the sake of supporting an interest group whose purpose is to demonize Israel.

Singling out Israel and HP, among all the nations, companies, and conflicts in the world raises troubling issues about the Cambridge City Council. Numerous companies with Cambridge contacts are working overseas and engaged in transactions that can be tied to questionable human rights practices throughout the world, but the Council is being asked to support dubious and largely unexamined claims made by an outside organization solely against Israel.  Furthermore, the BDS (boycotts, divestment, and sanctions) movement is detrimental to achieving peace.  The establishment of a Palestinian state is a goal we share but will not be realized by extreme and deceptive claims that belie reality. There are many people of goodwill working to bridge the divide between Israelis and Palestinians. Boycotts, like the one under consideration, undermine these peacemakers, fuel polarization, and strengthen the hands of those who reject co-existence. Please do not let Cambridge become a part of that.

Sincerely,

Michael & Margie Bogdanow
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